

**Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA) and
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)
Aging and Adult Services Agency (AASA)
Virtual Meeting
Friday, January 15, 2021**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Michigan Commission on Services to the Aging was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Commission Chair Wishart.

CSA ROLL CALL

The commission roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

CSA MEMBERS PRESENT

Dona Wishart, Mark Bomberg, William Bupp, Nancy Duncan, Walid Gammouh, Marshall Greenhut, Kathleen LaTosch, Peter Lichtenberg, Michael Pohnl, Linda Strohl, and Kristie Zamora

CSA MEMBER EXCUSED

Georgia Crawford-Cambell, Guillermo Lopez, Tene Milton-Ramsey, and Robert Schlueter

AASA STAFF PRESENT

Dr. Alexis Travis, Scott Wamsley, Brenda Ross, Kelly Cooper, Jen Hunt, Cindy Masterson, Jennifer Onwenu, and Michelle McGuire.

APPROVAL OF CSA AGENDA

Commission Chair Wishart requested a motion to approve the CSA agenda with the recommendation to add meeting end times to future agendas.

A motion was made by Commissioner Duncan and Commissioner Strohl seconded motion. The agenda was approved by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF CSA MINUTES

Commission Chair Wishart requested a motion to approve the December 18, 2020 CSA minutes without amendments.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bomberg and Commissioner Duncan seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

COMMISSION CHAIR OPENING REMARKS

Commissioner Wishart welcomed all to the virtual meeting, and offered the following comments:

- As we strive to strengthen the network of services to the aging and enhance communications across the network, the interest shown by those joining in this virtual meeting is appreciated. We are looking forward to the day when we can meet in person again.

- A special thanks to the Area Agency on Aging Association of Michigan and members, the Michigan Directors of Services to the Aging and members, councils and commissions on aging and partner agencies for being with us.
- This has been a very busy month across Michigan – many meetings taking place across the networks on collaborative efforts that will lead to teamwork for planning and distribution of vaccines.
- Special appreciation to AASA staff Brenda Ross for continued support in meeting execution in the virtual space.
- The State Advisory Council is seeking a guest commissioner to speak at their January 21, 2021 virtual meeting. Anyone who may be interested, please email Dona today by the end of the day.
- The Advocacy Committee was developed out of a call to action several years ago. Commissioner Donna Marie Brown began chairing the committee at its inception. The leadership transitioned to Commissioner LaTosch and we are thankful for her efforts during her time serving as the committee's chair. Commissioner LaTosch was instrumental in moving the committee to action. As of this month, another transition has taken place and Commissioner Duncan is now serving as the committee chair. She will bring a keen awareness of what is necessary to work with the State Budget Office and a strong voice to advocate for funding. The Advocacy Committee did meet with the Executive Office of the Governor last week and more updates will be shared during the committee's report.
- She acknowledged the importance, value, and excellence of AASA's leadership team and all AASA staff. We benefit greatly from the work they do and guidance they provide the CSA. Thank you to all.
- We will also have the pleasure today of learning and listening to presentations on housing and equity work being done.
- Our list of informational topics is growing, and these will be prioritized against timelines with business items in the upcoming months. Commissioner Lichtenberg has requested a progress report on the PREVENT program and impacts on Elder Abuse which will be addressed. We will also be scheduling an update on the Attorney General's Elder Abuse Task Force.

PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATED TO AASA PROGRAMS, SERVICES, POLICIES, OR ISSUES IMPACTING OLDER AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

Laura Nestle, with the Foster Grandparent Program serving St. Clair County, shared the following comments:

- Prior to COVID, 64-68 foster grandparents were maintained. Due to the pandemic, deaths, relocations, and retirement have reduced the number to 51 fierce volunteers ready to return to classrooms to help children.
- Five people, who impressively reached out during the pandemic wishing to serve, are on a wait list for training.
- Volunteers are currently serving 4,000+ hours either in person or virtually in classrooms. The stipends received for these hours makes a difference in many of their lives.
- In-service has been adapted with the current environment and trainings continue occurring in outdoor and parking lot settings.
- While the pandemic has slowed the work, they continue to seek alternate pathways to allow volunteers' lives to continue to be fulfilled and minds challenged by serving. This

is the passion and mission of Foster Grandparent, Senior Companion, and R.S.V.P. programs across the state.

- The CSA and AASA support of these programs is greatly appreciated.

Commissioner Linda Strohl provided public comment. She stated there should be clarity in defining Direct Care Workers (DCW). Her staff continues to run into roadblocks in getting vaccines locally. While she understands the supply is limited, DCWs providing care for homebound seniors should receive priority in receiving the vaccine.

STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING (SAC) UPDATE REPORT

Commissioner Zamora provided an update on the work of the SAC.

- The SAC will be meeting next week on Thursday, January 21, 2021. Updates will be given by AASA staff and council members from around the state.
- Work on the 2020 draft report will continue, the topic: *Social Isolation with Emphasis on Outreach*.
- Work will begin on the 2021 charge of *Aging in Place*. Discussion will include exploring avenues to accomplish the work, and small workgroups will be created to execute the work.

CSA ADVOCACY COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Duncan provided an update on the work of the committee.

- On Monday, January 11, 2021, the following CSA representatives met with the Executive Office of the Governor members Nathan Reynolds, Public Relations and Ghida Dagher, Appointments: Chair Wishart, Commissioners LaTosch, Bomberg and herself, and Dr. Travis. Notes from the meeting were shared with the Commissioners. She highlighted the items discussed.
 - Impact of COVID-19 on seniors
 - Waitlist information
 - Direct Care Workforce and its professionalization
 - Aging in place and benefits of helping seniors stay in their own homes.
 - ✓ Desires
 - ✓ Cost-effectiveness
 - ✓ Safer due to COVID-19
 - Made a budget request for the FY 22 budget.
 - ✓ Address chronic waitlist (approximately 5,100 waiting for home-based services) requesting \$6,375 million.
 - ✓ If request is approved, clients served could increase by 20 percent.
 - If the Governor is not able to support the full request, the hope was for a “down payment” on the funds so addressing the waitlist could begin.
 - Population trends, which will be on the increase in the coming years, were addressed noting the need for long-term strategies.

AGING AND ADULT SERVICES SENIOR DEPUTY REPORT

Dr. Alexis Travis provided the following updates:

- Current COVID-19 data in Michigan is as follows:
 - 576,000+ total cases
 - ✓ 135,000+ adults 60 and older (23 percent)
 - 14,5000+ deaths
 - ✓ Just under 13,000 were adults 60 and older. (89 percent)

- Continuing to collaborate strongly with Medical Services Administration (MSA) on COVID response efforts. MSA leads the effort for nursing facilities and AASA is leading the effort for home and community-based services.
- Michiganders over the age of 65 can now receive the vaccine. A frequently asked questions document specifically for older adults and caregivers is currently under review and will be released soon.
- Dr. Travis attends weekly briefings with department senior leadership. At last meeting, it was reported that the number of individuals who have received the vaccine in Michigan is currently just over 300,000.
 - Overall goal is to have over 70 percent of Michiganders vaccinated.
 - People are encouraged to call the state of Michigan 2-1-1 phone line to get information on how to obtain the vaccination.
 - Nursing home residents and caregivers are a priority.
- Current data on those recovering from the virus shows individuals experiencing anxiety and weakness.
- Premium pay for DCWs was extended in the latest COVID Relief Package from January 1 – February 28, 2021. The department supports further extension and increase in wages for DCWs.
- AASA continues working with *Bellage* on the *CV19 Checkup* tool – the online platform to help older adults do self-assessments and identify resources for needs during the pandemic.
 - Data suggests that older adults 75+ are more often engaging in unsafe behaviors, not following public health guidance.
 - Tailoring approach to communicate guidance more effectively and assisting with registration to be vaccinated in that demographic. Working to adapt the tool to assist with this as well.
 - First *Bellage* bulletin was released and features Michigan and other pioneering states.
- Large shipment of Personal Protective Equipment was delivered to AAAs recently. Shipment included N-95 masks to be used for staff, service recipients, and members of the public.
- AASA has a one-year partnership with Centers for Healthcare Strategies, which is funded by the Michigan Health Endowment Fund. Purpose of project is to provide technical assistance with the DCW work.
 - Internal environmental/governmental scans will be conducted.
 - Series of interviews and focus group convenings with public and stakeholders.
 - Final product will be an action plan to implement to address the deficit of DCWs.
- Continuing to develop the internal Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion plan, as well as a capacity building project to develop health equity in the aging networks.
- AASA Annual Report will be submitted to the Legislature by the January 31 deadline.
- Michigan was invited to participate in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion's Healthy Aging Regional Meeting in February. Dr. Khaldun, Dr. Travis and Deputy Director Wamsley will attend and focus on regional development of healthy aging plans for older adults.
- Two new staff have joined the AASA team.
 - Cindy Masterson will serve as the Operations and Aging Network Support Division Director. She brings over 33 years of state government experience including work in budget and with grants.

- Jennifer Onwenu will serve as an MPHI affiliate focusing on management of special projects in the department. She previously served as an intern for AASA while receiving her master's in social work.

LEGISLATIVE AND COMMUNICATIONS UPDATES, AASA PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Jen Hunt, State Assistant Administrator, provided the following updates:

- State revenue estimating conference is taking place today which will shape the support of AASA's budget.
 - As January marks the beginning a new legislative session, any bills introduced last session not moved entirely through the process and voted into law will need to be reintroduced. Aging network background checks is legislation of interest to AASA.
- *GetSetUp* project to train older adults on technology has been well received.
 - Nearly 32,000 users on the platform.
 - Nearly 52,000 completed sessions.
 - There are users from Ironwood all the way to close to the Ohio boarder.
 - A list of the most popular classes is included with the minutes.

Jen's presentation noting user analytics and most popular classes is included with minutes.

FINANCIAL UPDATES

Scott Wamsley, AASA Deputy Director, provided the following updates:

- The state budget for FY 21 is in place and is essentially flat funded from original allocation levels for FY 20.
- There is a bit more detail to the federal budget as it relates to aging programs.

A budget table was shared with commissioners and reviewed by Deputy Director Wamsley. The table is included with the minutes.

BUSINESS ITEMS

a. Request for Approval of Federal CARES Act Administrative Funding for Animatronic Pets grant to Michigan Advocacy Program (MiAP)

Michelle McGuire, AASA Departmental Specialist, provided an overview stating the grant is being expanded \$50,000 for the period January 15 through September 30, 2021. AASA has collaborated with the State Long Term Care Ombudsman Program to purchase approximately 1,850 animatronic pets intended to help address social isolation for residents in nursing homes and other licensed facilities dealing with social isolation. MiAP received a total of 2,319 requests for these pets. This additional funding will allow MiAP to support the purchase of approximately 469 additional pets and related costs (e.g., shipping, replacement batteries, etc.)

A motion was made by Commissioner Duncan to approve the Request for Approval of Federal CARES Act Administrative Funding for Animatronic Pets grant to Michigan Advocacy Program (MiAP). Commissioner Zamora seconded the motion.

Additional discussion followed and the motion was approved by roll call vote 11-0-0.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

a. Senior Housing Presentation

Lynn Hendges, Manager, MDHHS Housing and Homeless Services and Kelly Rose, Chief Housing Solutions Officer, Michigan State Housing Development Authority provided a presentation on housing services in Michigan.
The power point presentation is included with the minutes.

b. Advancing Equity through Systems Change within Michigan's Aging Network

Linda Gordon with Michigan Public Health Institute provided a presentation on the partnership project with AASA.

The power point presentation is included with the minutes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next *virtual* Commission on Services to the Aging meeting is tentatively scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Friday, February 19, 2021. Please note, these meetings are open to the public, and anyone wishing to attend may do so. Those needing technology assistance should contact Brenda Ross at rossb11@michigan.gov at least five days before the meeting date.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Wishart adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.



Partnership Update

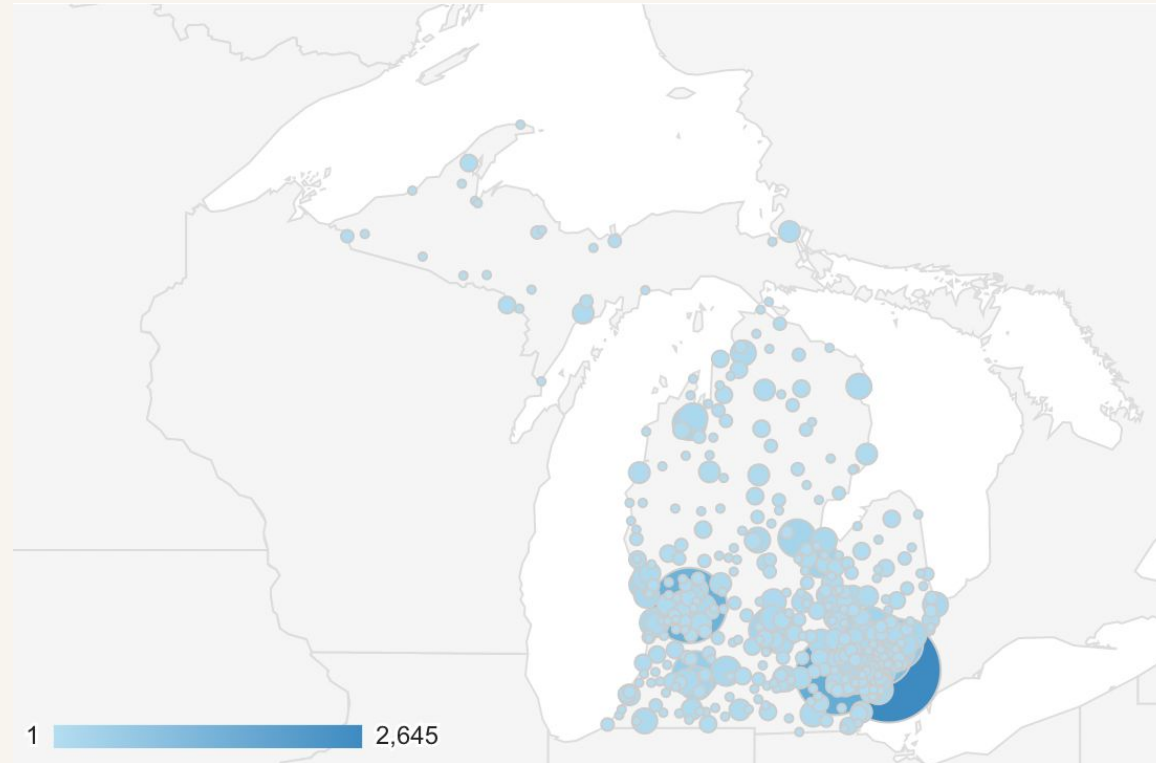
January 10, 2020



User Analytics (as of January 10, 2021)

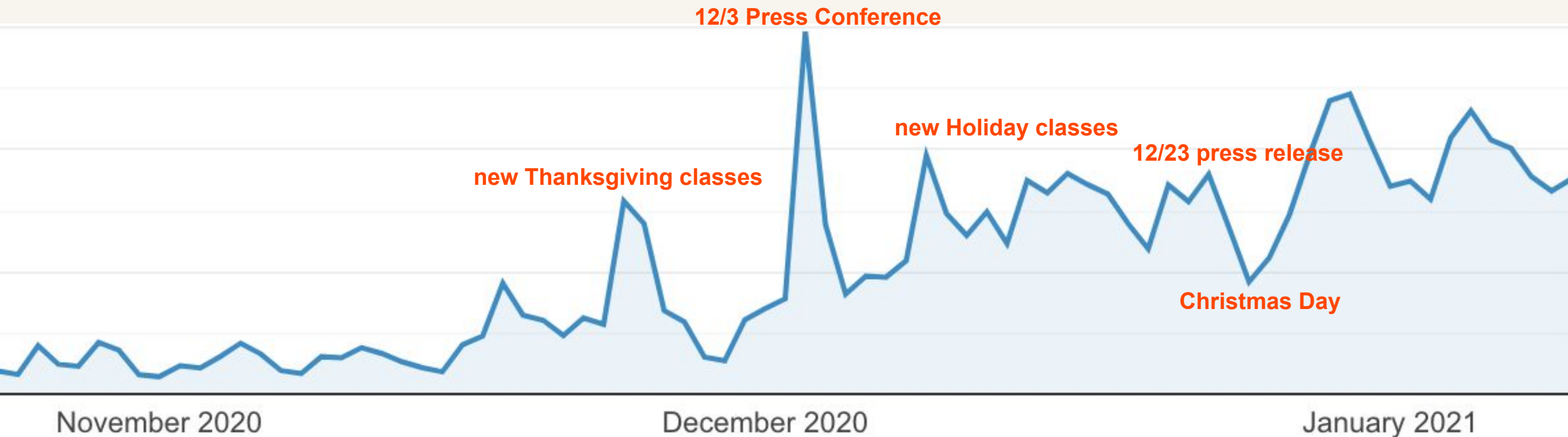
Top 20 Markets
Detroit
Ann Arbor
Grand Rapids
Royal Oak
Troy
Livonia
Clinton Township
Sterling Heights
Lansing
Kalamazoo
Southfield
Farmington Hills
Rochester Hills
Saginaw
West Bloomfield Township
Commerce Charter Township
Midland
Grand Blanc Township
Orion Charter Township
Canton

- Total users: 31,873 (+4,809 from prior week)
- Sessions: 51,884 (+8,340 from prior week)
- Over 450 cities and towns represented



GetSetUp Membership Activity

- New users and increased activity through holidays.
- Top usage days: Thursday, 12/3, Wednesday, 12/30 and Tuesday, 1/5



Top 20 Most Popular Classes (week of 1/4)

Schedule & Host Zoom Meetings
Get Started with Zoom for Beginners
Artificial Intelligence
Virtual Visits Musems & Tours You Can Enjoy Online
Twitter
iPhone Basics - Things You Need to Know
How to Safely Sell Your Stuff Online from Home
Google Docs Basics
Fun Games to Play on Zoom
Tips and Tricks for Taking Photos with Your iPhone
Social Hour: Dancing to the Music of the 1960s and 1970s
Google Photos Basics
How to Bake Sourdough Bread
Using Google Sheets to Organize Important Information/Affairs
Emotionally Intelligent Communication
Using your Android
Excel - Using and Managing Spreadsheets
How to Stay Calm in Stressful Times
Exploring Your Genealogy
How to Get Organized using Evernote
Gmail - Useful Things You May Not Know

New Classes - Diverse Categories

- Expanding staff of Guides and increased class programming
- Dancing, Goal Visualization, Walking the Camino de Santiago, Blogging

Week of 12/28:

Social Hour: Dancing to the Music of the 1960s and 1970s
Social Hour: Dancing to African and Caribbean Music
Doodling to Destress
Great Winter Meals
Goal Visualization
Reflections on 2020 and Hopes for 2021
Improv Fun
Stroke Awareness
Supporting Loved Ones After a Stroke

Week of 1/4:

Emotionally Intelligent Communication
How to Get Organized using Evernote
Walking the Camino de Santiago
Intoduction to Wine Appreciation
Setting Goals and Achieving Them
Qigong for Beginners
Become a Blogger on Medium
Telehealth - How to Have a Virtual Visit with your Doctor
Cycling Fun & Fitness

Thank You



QUARTERLY GRANT & SERVICES EXPENDITURE REPORT
FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2019 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2020
4th Quarter Report Ending September 30, 2020 (unless noted)

SERVICE GRANT / SERVICE CATEGORY	AWARD	EXPENDITURES	PERCENT TO DATE
AAA Federal Expenditures (OAA Title III & VII by Part & NSIP)			
Part B Supportive Services	\$11,655,479	\$9,780,632	83.9%
Part C-1 Congregate Meals	\$7,910,563	\$6,244,579	78.9%
Part C-2 Home Delivered Meals	\$11,997,932	\$9,867,377	82.2%
Part D Preventative Health	\$781,681	\$667,790	85.4%
Part E National Family Caregiver	\$5,036,190	\$4,133,821	82.1%
Part VII EAP Elder Abuse Prevention	\$160,862	\$154,115	95.8%
Part VII-A Long-Term Care Ombudsman	\$168,724	\$141,512	83.9%
Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP)	\$7,846,090	\$7,694,091	98.1%
OAA AIP AAA Federal Total	\$45,557,521	\$38,683,917	84.9%
AAA State Expenditures			
Access	\$705,400	\$705,400	100.0%
In-Home	\$12,576,500	\$12,484,799	99.3%
Congregate Meals	\$236,323	\$236,323	100.0%
Home Delivered Meals	\$11,811,921	\$11,798,739	99.9%
State Nursing Home Ombudsman	\$466,475	\$459,186	98.4%
State Alternative Care	\$2,778,376	\$2,749,434	99.0%
Michigan State Ombudsman	\$200,000	\$200,000	100.0%
Care Management	\$5,829,800	\$5,829,800	100.0%
Merit Award Trust Fund Program	\$2,986,717	\$2,858,370	95.7%
State Caregiver Support	\$374,912	\$363,060	96.8%
State Respite Care Program ("Respite Escheat")	\$1,127,100	\$811,598	72.0%
State Aging Network Services	\$1,100,000	\$1,096,089	99.6%
AIP AAA State Total	\$40,193,524	\$39,592,798	98.5%
AAA Administration			
AAA Federal Administration	\$4,070,740	\$4,070,740	100.0%
AAA State Administration	\$703,168	\$701,268	99.7%
Merit Award & State Caregiver Support Administration	\$306,097	\$302,925	99.0%
AAA AIP Administration Total	\$5,080,005	\$5,074,933	99.9%
Senior Volunteer Programs (1)			
Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)	\$727,299	\$489,991	67.4%
Senior Companion Program (SCP)	\$1,650,667	\$1,339,668	81.2%
Foster Grandparent Program (FGP)	\$2,164,746	\$1,622,239	74.9%
Senior Volunteer Program Total	\$4,542,712	\$3,451,898	76.0%

QUARTERLY GRANT & SERVICES EXPENDITURE REPORT
FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2019 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2020
4th Quarter Report Ending September 30, 2020 (unless noted)

SERVICE GRANT / SERVICE CATEGORY	AWARD	EXPENDITURES	PERCENT TO DATE
AASA Special Grant Programs			
Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) ⁽²⁾	\$2,599,164	\$984,968	37.9%
State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) (MMAF) ⁽³⁾	\$1,351,957	\$716,740	53.0%
Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA SHIP)	\$369,563	\$369,563	100.0%
Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA AAA)	\$211,191	\$211,191	100.0%
PREVNT Initiative Grant	\$965,000	\$737,916	76.5%
State Long Term Care Ombudsman Grant	\$632,000	\$456,964	72.3%
State Merit Award Trust Fund Program	\$826,710	\$594,764	71.9%
Special Grant / Service Category Total	\$6,955,585	\$4,072,106	58.5%

Totals	\$102,329,347	\$90,875,652	88.8%
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Totals (Less Partial Year Programs)	\$98,378,226	\$89,173,944	90.6%
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AAA SERVICE GRANT / SERVICE CATEGORY	AWARD	EXPENDITURES	PERCENT TO DATE
FAMILIES FIRST/CARES ACT Grants⁽⁴⁾			
FFCRA III-CMC2	\$1,297,818	\$1,296,826	99.9%
FFCRA III-HDC2	\$5,167,329	\$4,815,209	93.2%
CARES Act III-B	\$5,614,163	\$3,568,378	63.6%
CARES Act III-C	\$11,803,029	\$6,906,539	58.5%
CARES Act III-E	\$2,506,348	\$1,487,141	59.3%
CARES Act VII Ombudsman	\$523,296	\$151,335	28.9%
Grand Total	\$26,911,983	\$18,225,428	67.7%

Totals (Including FAMILIES FIRST / CARE ACT Grants)	\$129,241,330	\$109,101,080	84.4%
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Notes for Differing Fiscal / Program Year End Dates

(1) FY2020 state-funded Senior Volunteer Program (SVP) activities were suspended as of 7/31/2020 to implement a \$1.7 reduction in FY2020 state funding.

(2) The SCSEP program year is 7/1/2020 thru 6/30/2021 (November 2020 Report)

(3) The grant agreement for MMAF SHIP is 4/1/2020 thru 3/31/2021 (November 2020 report)

(4) FAMILIES FIRST/CARES ACT Grants - Expenditures are through 9/30/2020. The allowable spending period for these funds is through 9/30/2021.

Acronyms

AAA - Area Agency on Aging

AASA - Aging & Adult Services Agency

AIP - Annual Implementation Plan ("Area Plan")

OAA - Older Americans Act

MMAF - Medicare / Medicaid Assistance Program

Rev 1/11/2020

Helping Homeless Seniors Access Housing Resources

LYNN HENDGES, MANAGER

HOUSING & HOMELESS SERVICES, MDHHS

Homelessness

No permanent residence, living on the street, in a car, in a tent, or a structure not meant for human habitation.

Does not include staying with a friend, acquaintance or family member.

For seniors who were homeless prior to exiting an institutional setting – homeless status is maintained for 90 days or less.

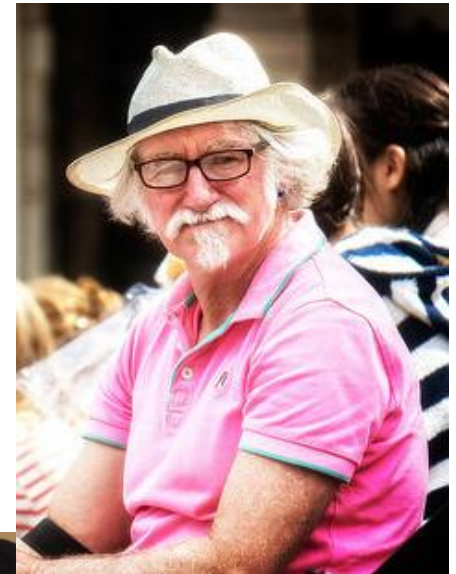
Homeless Seniors in Michigan (55+)

More than 8,300 seniors (55+) were homeless in Michigan

Seniors and families are our two fastest growing populations

Monthly income of a homeless senior was approximately \$1,000

African Americans comprise half of Michigan's homeless seniors



Accessing Immediate Assistance

Homeless Assistance Resource Agency (HARA)

- Front door to services
- Assessment and Referral

Shelter and Motel

- After-hours 2-1-1
- *Emergency shelter and motel is a short-term, immediate intervention while permanent housing resources can be identified*

Diversion

- Family and Friends
- Low-cost, high stability

SOAR

- SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) - SAMHSA
- Expedited process to assist homeless with a disability or co-occurring disorder apply for SSI/SSDI
- 74% approval rate – one of the best in the country
- Unique partnership between SSA, DDS, and local practitioners
- Provides much needed stable income to assist with living expenses

Challenges

Shelters are not staffed or structured to care for individuals with significant physical disabilities and conditions.

Homeless seniors are more vulnerable, frail and needing greater care and support.

Very limited recuperative care options for seniors discharged from institutional settings but still needing support and assistance.

Affordable housing crisis continues – significant lack of available and affordable rental units for low-income individuals and families.

Opportunities for Partnership

- Education to homeless providers about serving and supporting seniors
- Facilitate partnerships between local HARAs and AAAs
- Educate AAAs on local homeless response systems and accessing emergency shelter and long-term housing resources
- CARES funding for rental assistance and stabilization
- Consider AAA staff training for SOAR

Questions?

Paula Kaiser Van Dam, Director

Bureau of Community Services, MDHHS

KaiserP@michigan.gov

Lynn Hendges, Manager

Housing and Homeless Services, MDHHS

HendgesL2@michigan.gov

Advancing Equity through Systems Change within Michigan's Aging Network

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Aging and Adult Services Agency
MPHI, Center for Health Equity Practice
Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA) Meeting
December 18th, 2020

Advancing Equity through Systems Change within Michigan's Aging Network: *Why?*

- By 2050, the world's population aged 60 years and older is expected to double to nearly 2 billion people.
- The World report on *Aging and Health*: diversity in health and functional states in older populations, not simply individual choice; rather, inequalities in health are linked to **unfair and avoidable inequities** across the life course
- Identifying age-related inequities in public health practice, healthcare, services, and programmatic interventions is critical...

1. Officer, Alana, et al. *Valuing older people: time for a global campaign to combat ageism*. Bulletin of the World Health Organization 94.10 (2016): 710.
2. World Health Organization. *World report on ageing and health*. World Health Organization, 2015.

Advancing Equity through Systems Change within Michigan's Aging Network: *So what?*

Policies and practices need to be created in ways that overcome- rather than reinforce- these inequities, and explicitly address the deleterious health impacts of racism and ageism...

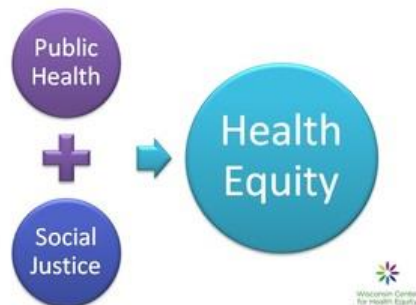
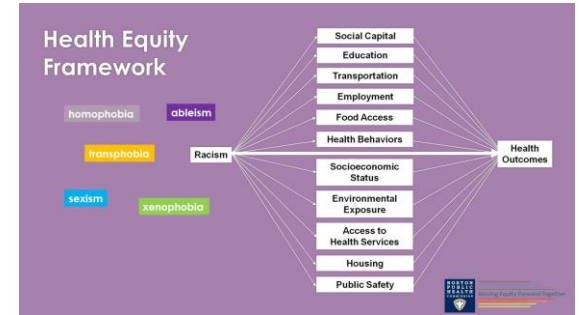
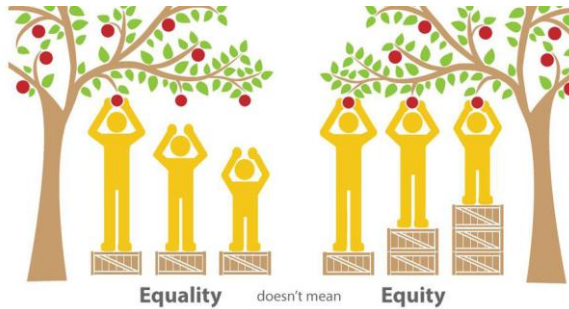
Advancing Equity through Systems Change within Michigan's Aging Network: *Project Objectives*

Increase the capacity of the existing workforce to engage an equity framework by providing workshops focused on **systems change** and **diversity, equity, and inclusion** within the **Aging Network** throughout Michigan

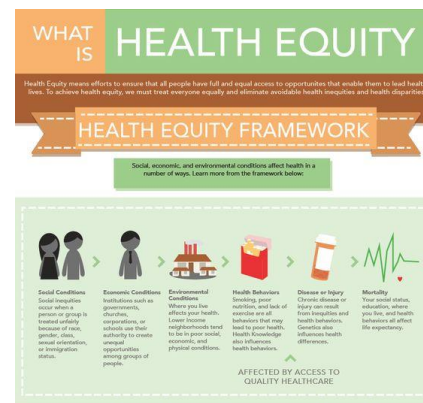
Understand the necessity and value of **addressing racism and other forms of oppression (i.e., ageism)** within and outside our systems explicitly as root causes of inequity

Build capacity and resolve to **mobilize for equity**, and **transform** how participating organizations and networks **operate internally and practice externally**

Advancing Equity through Systems Change within Michigan's Aging Network: *What is an Equity Framework?*



Wisconsin Center for Health Equity





WHAT IS HEALTH EQUITY?

Health equity can be viewed as both **process** — removing economic and social obstacles to health such as poverty and discrimination and an **outcome** — everyone has a fair and just opportunity for optimal health and well-being

Braveman P, Arkin E, Orleans T, Proctor D, and Plough A. What Is Health Equity? And What Difference Does a Definition Make? Princeton, NJ: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2017



WHAT IS HEALTH INEQUITY?

Differences in population health status and mortality rates that are ***systemic, patterned, unfair, unjust, and actionable***, as opposed to random or caused by those who become ill.

Margaret Whitehead, *The Concepts and Principles of Equity in Health*. *Health Promotion International* 6(3): 217-28. 1992

Advancing Equity through Systems Change within Michigan's Aging Network: *Thinking Systemically*



Institutional Practices

When public policies, institutional practices, cultural representations, and other norms perpetuate inequity



History

Aspects of history that have allowed disadvantage based on social identity to endure and adapt over time



Environment

Part of the social, economic and political environment in which we all exist

Advancing Equity through Systems Change within Michigan's Aging Network: *Workshop Series*

Tier 1: Core Concepts

Tier 2: Systems Change

Tier 3: Learning Labs

Ongoing Technical Assistance

Source: Kania, J., Kramer, M., & Senge, P. (2018). *The Water of Systems Change*. FSG. Retrieved from https://www.fsg.org/publications/water_of_systems_change

Advancing Equity through Systems Change within Michigan's Aging Network: *Outcomes*

- This project will advance systems change by shifting service professionals' knowledge, attitudes, behavior regarding diversity, equity, aging, and organizational practice within the aging network throughout Michigan
- Increase participants' capacity to advance equity-based dialogue within their organizations and apply their learnings to everyday work

Advancing Equity through Systems Change within Michigan's Aging Network: *Evaluation*

- **Pre/post-workshop evaluations** throughout the implementation period
- **Organizational Assessment** will be used as a pre-test for the Learning Lab sessions to identify opportunities and barriers for implementation
- Sessions will culminate in **action planning** that will be used as the foundation for follow-up evaluation

Advancing Equity through Systems Change within Michigan's Aging Network: Q&A

- What stands out to you about this work?
- What do you want to know more about?
- What do we need to think about more?

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Thank you, Dr. Alexis Travis, Senior Deputy Director, MDHHS Aging & Adult Services; Area Agencies on Aging; MDHHS staff; State Advisory Committee; Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA); other aging stakeholders/partners!